



BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

November 12, 2012

5:30 p.m., 6th Floor OBM Conference Room
2 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, TX

MINUTES

Members Present: 6

David Turner, James Tolbert, Theresa Welch Fordham, Deanna De La Cruz, Alisa Jorgensen, Frederick Caldwell

Members Absent: 2

Ralph Cloud, Jennifer Barr-Ardovino

Member Vacancies: 1

Staff Present: Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, Tracy Novak, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, Liza Ramirez-Tobias, Capital Assets Manager, Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator, Sandra Hernandez, Secretary

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order

Dave Turner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: October 8, 2012

Alisa Jorgensen asked for a correction: official name Woodworkers Club of El Paso.

Frederick Caldwell arrived 5:33 p.m.

Motion by James Tolbert to approve minutes with the change. Second by Alisa Jorgensen.

Motion carried (unanimous).

3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)

None

4. Agenda Item #4. Parks and Recreation Calendar and Newsletter

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, highlighted the calendar and newsletter included in the agenda packet. She urged board members to mark their calendars and attend the tree lighting and parade.

5. Agenda Item #5. Discussion and Action: Esmeralda Park and Ellis Lateral Linear Trail – Liza Ramirez-Tobias, Capital Assets Manager

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Liza Ramirez-Tobias, gave a powerpoint presentation. She explained the requested land usage by El Paso Electric at Esmeralda Park and Ellis Lateral Linear Trail for an easement to build high voltage transmission line.

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, advised that the hearing and approval would go to Council on November 27, 2012.

Motion by James Tolbert to recommend Council approve the use and the staff-negotiated pathway and playground relocation. Second by Frederick Caldwell. Five (5) Ayes, one (1) Nay, Motion carried.

6. Agenda Item #6. Discussion and Action: Site Selection for FY12 “Excellence in Park Design” – Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator

Marci Tuck, gave a powerpoint presentation on four candidates for the “Excellence in Park Design.” This is an annual award. The qualifications to be considered are projects by a private developer that go beyond the minimum standard and the site has to be officially accepted into the Parks and Recreation inventory during the fiscal year. Discussion ensued.

Motion by James Tolbert to approve Mesquite Trails #6 Linear Trail for the “Excellence in Park Design” award. Second by Theresa Welch Fordham. Motion carried (unanimous).

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion and Action: Master Plan Update

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, talked about the structure of the Master Plan. The Citizen Input and Summary chapters will be reviewed this evening and the remaining chapters will be available for the next meeting.

Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator, reviewed highlights of the two chapters. Several questions were asked by Alisa Jorgensen on wording and interpretation of statistical data. Discussion ensued.

Marci explained that the Summary chapter related to the other chapters on specific types of facilities and parks.

8. Agenda Item #8. Discussion and Action: Proposition 1/Parks and Recreation Quality Of Life Bond Projects

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, explained some next steps for the Quality of Life bond projects. Council approved a bond oversight advisory committee, which will likely meet after January 1st, and pending Council appointments. Staff will be working with the City Manager on recommendations for the initial projects rollout.

9. Agenda Item #9. Ethics Ordinance Training

Chairman David Turner reminded members that the ethics training is required and needs to be completed by the end of the year. The link is included on the memo in the agenda packet and training will take about 20 minutes to view.

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10. Agenda Item #10. Discussion and Action: Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)

Dave Turner offered to remove himself and add Frederick Caldwell as an alternate for the grievance committee. Motion by James Tolbert. Second by Deanna De La Cruz. Motion carried (unanimous).

11. Agenda Item #11. Discussion: Identify Items for Future Agendas

- Master Plan

12. Agenda Item #12. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sandra Hernandez, Secretary